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# AMERICAN REVIEW OF EASTERN ORTHODOXY

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for the many blessings we receive as  
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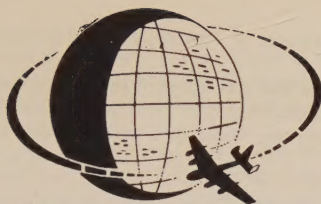
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AMERICAN REVIEW OF EASTERN ORTHODOXY



## AROUND THE WORLD WITH THE CHURCH

# FOREIGN

**CHRISTMAS IN THE HOLY LAND.** An estimated 1,500 Orthodox Christian Arabs from Israel crossed the frontier into Jordan to attend Eastern Church Christmas celebrations in Bethlehem. They received a permit for a 36-hour stay in Jordan territory.

Jordanian police escorted Greek Orthodox Patriarch Benediktos of Jerusalem, when he headed a procession that preceded the actual celebration of services in the Church of the Nativity.

A request for a visa of entry was denied, however, to some 35 Orthodox nuns and monks holding Soviet passports.

Bethlehem is approximately seven miles from the Israel sector of Jerusalem, or about fifteen miles by car. Besides the pilgrims entering, special arrangements between Israel and Jordan permit members of the diplomatic and consular corps in Israel to motor to Bethlehem in a special convoy.

*Protestant and Catholic Services were held December 25th, as opposed to the January 6th Services of the Orthodox. The Armenians celebrate their Christmas on January 19th. Separate migrations across the border occurred for each of these dates. - ED.*

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**BRITISH SCHOLARS TRANSLATING NEW TESTAMENT INTO 'CURRENT' ENGLISH.** Publication of a new translation of the New Testament into current English by British scholars expected early in 1961.

The new translation will be published jointly by Oxford University Press and Cambridge University Press. Dr. C.H. Dodd of Oxford, emeritus professor of divinity at Cambridge University, is the general director of the translation. Eleven church bodies are represented on a joint committee that is overseeing the whole work.

The committee appointed four panels of scholars: one to translate the Old Testament; a second to translate the New Testament; a third to translate the Apocrypha; the fourth to be advisory advisers. Several more years work will be necessary to complete the Old Testament.

The translators were instructed to render the source material into contemporary English, taking account current usage of the language and to avoid the use of all archaic words and expressions.

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**NOW CHURCHES FILLED FOR CHRISTMAS.** Elokhevsky Cathedral and other of the churches throughout Moscow were packed with worshippers for solemn liturgies celebrated on Orthodox Christmas.

Among the Western Churches of Christendom, which observe the Gregorian Calendar, the Eastern churches of the Slavic group follow the Julian Calendar. A difference of 13 days exists in

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this calculation. This same difference, of course, applies to other fixed Calendar Days also.

In Moscow, the Cathedral services were conducted by Patriarch Alexei, who was assisted by Bishop Pimen of Dimitrov and Bishop Ioann of the Moscow Patriarchate. The celebrants vested in 'gold' the church interior was decorated with fir tree branches, a traditional Christmas symbol in Russia.

The Patriarch's Christmas sermon said, in part, that it is the duty of all pastors of the Church and their followings 'to pray for peace thruout the world' because 'internal and external peace is the dearest and most valuable possession of the people'. He also expressed the heartfelt wish that 1959 and succeeding years would 'bring an era of general peace which will permit people to contribute to the flourishing and glory of their own homeland thru useful labor'.

The Moscow Radio, while also broadcasting the Patriarch's message, did not hesitate to say: 'The Christmas celebrations are derived from old pagan celebrations which exist long before the alleged birth of Christ. The Feast of Christ's birth, like other religious feasts, serves, above all, the purpose of conditioning Christian believers in forms of behavior serving the interests of the capitalist exploiters'. The Radio also added, in another broadcast, that the latest Russian rocket proves that 'man creates his own worlds and heavens' and that 'the so-called Christian heaven' is man-created likewise.

It is only the so-called 'fundamentalists' or 'literalists' that think the term 'heaven' can apply to the physical heavens. The Fathers of the Church always observed that God is Spirit; naturally, 'heaven' is a spiritual abode, not a physical one. The Station is correct, however, in observing that many of the Christian observances are 'pagan derived'. -

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**SERBIAN CHRISTMAS MARKED IN BELGRADE.** Even as in Moscow, so also in Belgrade was Christmas celebrated in overcrowded services in the great Orthodox Cathedral. Conducted by Patriarch German, head of the 9,000,000 Serbian Orthodox faithful, the Service set the pattern of staging the traditional Christmas festivities and centuries-old customs associated with the Nativity. Despite official disapproval, hundreds of thousands of families followed suit in their personal observances.

The Patriarch made a special plea, in his message, for mothers to not neglect the religious upbringing of their children, for they are 'the greatest hope of Christianity'.

Altho the government does not recognize Christmas as a Holiday, it being a regular working day, great throngs managed to attend church services in their free time. - ED. (Showing that people can be taken out of religion, but not religion out of people)

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**'RADIO LIBERATION' BROADCASTS ORTHODOX CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS.** Christmas religious programs were broadcast to the Soviet Union by 'Radio Liberation' from powerful transmitters in West Germany. The station, which also has transmitters in the Far East, has its principal studios in Munich.

Feature of the programs was a taped message by Archbishop Vasili, spiritual head of the Belorussian Orthodox Church in the USA, which has a following of some thousands.

The archbishop said that the 'Christmas holidays have a particular significance for....every peoples, because Christ also suffered similarly in His lifetime'.

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**ORTHODOX LEADER CHARGES PATRIARCH'S MESSAGE ABUSED.** Metropolitan James of Melita deplored the 'large use and abuse' of Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras's New Year's message, which, he said, was made by 'certain' Roman Catholic newspapers in Switzerland.

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Germany and Spain.

Metropolitan, who is stationed in Geneva as representative of the Ecumenical Patriarch, the message had been distorted, 'misquoted, and misinterpreted' to give the false impression that the Eastern Orthodox Church was making overtures for a 'return' to Rome.

New Year address, Patriarch Athenagoras had rendered an oblique response to the recent address of Pope John XXIII for the 'return' of the Orthodox to Rome. The Patriarch had said, in 'We greet this appeal in brotherly spirit, for we interpret it as a clear understanding that spiritual forces, which are seen in their fullness and power in the ideal and most desirable state of unity which our Lord bequeathed to His Church, must truly meet again and be unified'.

Patriarch declared that such 'uniting of spiritual forces is, of course, not possible in the present state of division and discord which has existed for centuries. Every appeal for unity must be accompanied by such concrete deeds and actions as are necessary to prove our intention of full harmony with our works and which would bring members of our churches indeed closer to God, at least on the ground of practical Christianity for the present, and always in a spirit of equality, justice, spiritual freedom and mutual respect.'

In the course of the present holidays', he continued, 'which are centered around the Epiphany of our Saviour and Lord Jesus Christ, who manifested Himself in the East, we find it proper to pray that, in this season when the thoughts of all Christians are turned towards the East from whence came the 'Prince of Peace', the Holy Church of Rome may also in brotherly fashion turn towards the East. This we expect and wish from his Holiness the new Pope of Rome who is so well known and loved and respected in our Church jurisdictions; and this wish is ours alone, but is the expectation of all Christians who hope to see the dawn of a real peace in Christ.'

\* \* \* \* \*

AN PRELATE'S 'PEACE SPEECHES' PUBLISHED. A new book, containing 'peace speeches' made by Metropolitan Nikolai of Krutitsky and Kolomna, has been published by the Holy Synod of the Russian Orthodox Church.

The publication includes a speech made by the Metropolitan, in which he urged Christians in Great Britain to 'fight for peace'; other similar public appeals are also included, public meetings which he has attended during the past four years.

Article entitled: 'Questions of War and Peace in the Light of the Bible' was also included.

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RUSSIAN CHURCH SCHOLARS LEAVE FOR ETHIOPIA. Two well-known scholars of the Russian Orthodox Church left this month by plane for Addis Ababa to study the work of the Ethiopian Coptic Church.

The scholars are Archimandrite Nikodim and Mikhail Dobrynin, a lecturer at the Leningrad Theological Academy.

The visit to Ethiopia was linked with the Russian Church's policy of developing closer relations with other Churches throughout the world.

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AUSTRALIAN CHURCHES RAISE \$95,000 IN CHRISTMAS APPEAL. Protestant and Russian Orthodox churches in Australia raised 42,000 pounds (\$95,000) for the Christmas of Remembrance Appeal of the Australian Council for the World Council of Churches.

Twenty thousand pounds of the money will be spent to aid aged 'White Russian' Orthodox refugees from Russia who live in Australia. The balance of the money will be used to aid needy people throughout Australia.



the Middle East, Africa and Europe.

Joining in the fund-raising were the Anglicans, Presbyterians, Methodists, Congregational Church of Christ, Salvation Army, Quaker and Greek Orthodox.

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**EAST GERMANS STRENGTHEN MEASURES AGAINST CHRISTMAS.** Authorities in East German sector of Berlin have issued instructions to all party, government offices and factories that no 'traditional' Christmas songs, poems or parties may be staged.

Instead of the traditional greeting on cards of 'Merry Christmas', officials were instructed to substitute: 'A Peaceful Feast of the Evergreen Tree'. Missing also from public decorations of the streets and squares of East Germany were the usual stars and angels hanging from the fir-tree garlands. These have been replaced by Chinese and Negro dolls holding peace doves in their hands, while huge banners spelled out the slogans: 'Peace On Earth to All Those Who Fight For It' or 'Peace to the World; Joy and Prosperity to Mankind'.

Workers who left factories early on Christmas Eve were ordered to make up the lost time on a Saturday or Sunday.

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**POLISH GOVERNMENT PROVIDES FUNDS FOR NON-RELIGIOUS CEMETERIES.** To offset some of the current bitterness over burial of government leaders in Roman Catholic cemeteries, the Polish Parliament has voted funds to provide for the establishment of cemeteries throughout the country for persons who do not want to be buried in consecrated ground.

Last year, several Roman Catholic priests were fined or imprisoned for refusing to bury Communists in Catholic cemeteries. Their attitude caused riots in some communities and much bitterness among the relatives of the deceased. The priests had been severely criticized for practicing their religion, but not Christianity.

\* \* \* \* \*

**YUGOSLAV POLICE PROBE MYSTERY OF MONK'S MURDER.** Police authorities in Belgrade reported that local authorities in Kraljevo were busy probing the murder mystery of the 68-year old Serbian Orthodox hermit monk, Nestor Maricic, in the remote mountains of Western Serbia.

The monk was found dead shortly after Christmas in a tiny wooden hut decorated as a chapel. The hut was located 15 miles from the famed monastery of Studenica near Kraljevo. He had been killed by a blunt instrument and the hut was in a state of disorder. Authorities feel that robbery may have been a possible motive.

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**YUGOSLAV RELIGIOUS HEADS PRAISE GOVERNMENT FOR COOPERATION.** In their New Year statements, representatives of the country's religious bodies gave praise for increased and 'favorable' Church-State relations.

Patriarch German, head of the Serbian Orthodox Church (the nation's largest religious body), thanked the government for its substantial subsidy of the Church budget; he stressed, also, the freedom enjoyed by the Church in establishing greater contacts with Churches outside Yugoslavia.

Reis Ul Ulema Kbraham Kemura, leader of the one million Moslems of the country, said that 56 mosques had been built or repaired with State assistance. Bishop Milan Dobrovoljac of the Old Catholic Church of Serbia, praised the government for permitting a revival of the Church, which had suffered extreme 'persecution' by Catholics prior to the Communist seizure of power. Bishop Juraj Struharik, leader of the Slovak Evangelical Lutheran Church, said his community was also enjoying greater freedom.

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...oying 'full freedom'.

statements were made by leaders of the Seventh Day Adventist; the Reformed Christian; the Evangelical Church of Croatia; and the Yugoslav Jewish Community.

The government has promised \$100,000 this year to cover a deficit in the budget of the Serbian Orthodox Church. This represents an increase over the \$60,000 given last year. In addition, the government is expected to contribute to the Church's social insurance organization which provides pension payments to old priests and free medical treatment for the sick. The financial aid may depend to a degree, however, on the Church bringing about a reconciliation with the autonomous Macedonian Orthodox Church, which went into schism last year. The Serbian bishops will discuss the problem in May at their annual conference.

Regarding visits by the Patriarch German to countries behind the Iron Curtain, sources in Belgrade stated recently that the Serbian Orthodox Church had dropped plans for his going to Romania. No reason was given, but the current ideological rift between Tito and the Iron Curtain countries is apparently back of the change in plans. Originally, Patriarch German had planned to go to Romania last year, in return for a visit made to him by the head of the Romanian Orthodox Church, Patriarch Justinian, in June of 1957.

The United States government has been rendering considerable financial aid to Yugoslavia; this, plus a desire by the Yugoslav government to better hold its people united, are credited by some to be a part of the motivation of the government to institute better Church-State relations. - ED.

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**COMMUNIST CHINA FORCING PROTESTANTS TO 'UNITE'.** All Protestant denominations in Communist China are being merged into a single church body and the majority of all churches are being forced to close.

A.C. Merwin, secretary of the China Committee of the National Council of Churches, gave this report, in which he mentioned that, in the shutdown of local churches, all but 12 of 200 Protestant churches in Shanghai and all but 4 of 65 in Peiping were closed under the government action. 'Closed' church buildings are being turned over to the government as 'patriotic

buildings' to the Chinese public, only 2,700,000 of which are Christian, the government has declared that 'church division and denominational names are vestiges of western colonialism used to divide and rule'. The 'Three-Self Patriotic Movement Committee of Chinese Churches' is now the only government-recognized Protestant agency in China.

W.K. Jones, Jr., executive secretary of the Chinese division of the Methodist Board of Missions, said that even after ten years of persecution there are still 500 Methodist preachers in China serving some 50,000 Methodists. He differed strongly from the position taken by Dr. Nathan - Dr. Jones claimed that 'if Christians cooperate, the Communists have not tried to persecute them. In fact they have left church buildings with the churches, and have sponsored national conferences of Christian leaders.' He pointed out, however, that the last decade has seen a 'falling-away' of about one-third of Chinese Christians from the various churches; with Christian universities and hundreds of grade schools appropriated by the government.

In the U.S.A. a cooperative movement is under way to form a 'United' Church among Protestants. In some cases, to forward this activity, economic pressures are invoked. In Chicago, a multimillionaire's male secretary stated that small denominations and independent churches were abhorrent and that only large 'organized' churches would receive help from their funds. - ED.



**CONFERENCE OF EUROPEAN CHURCHES ESTABLISHED.** The First Conference of European Churches, which was formed at Liselund, Denmark, in 1957 by representatives of the Protestant and Orthodox Churches of ten countries of Eastern and Western Europe, voted to continue its four man provisional committee, in order that they might map out the next meeting of the Conference.

Committee members are: Prof. Harms of Geneva(WCC official), Bishop Hanns Lilje of Hannover (Unit.Evan.Luth.Church in Germany), Lutheran Archbishop Kiviit of Estonia, and the Rev.Dr. Egbert Emmen(Netherlands Reformed Church).

Bishop Lilje, acting-chairman of the January meeting, praised the participation of delegates from the various Orthodox Churches. These were Metropolitan James of Melita (representative of the Ecumenical Patriarch Athenagoras of Istanbul); Prof.Leo Pariiskij of the Russian Orthodox Church; and Dr. Nicholas Nissiotis of the Greek Orthodox Church.

Prof. Pariiskij, a lay theologian, predicted that the Russian Church would send representatives to the annual meeting of the World Council of Churches' Central Committee on the Isle of Man in August 19-28. He said no Russian bishop was able to attend the January meeting, because the Russian bishop unfortunately fell during Russian Christmas.

Bishop Dibelius of Berlin (EKID) summed up his opinion of what the most distinct contribution that European Protestantism had ever been. He said: 'the emergence of the idea of the reasonable Christian person' was the greatest achievement. Such an emergence being impossible in the eras prior to the Reformation.

\* \* \* \* \*

**FUND SOUGHT FOR 'CRADLE OF ENGLISH CHRISTIANITY'.** A group of leading Englishmen, headed by W. Tudor Pole, industrialist and archaeologist, are seeking funds to maintain the 'Chalice Well', Glastonbury, England.

Situated at the foot of two hills near Glastonbury, lies a well, nearly nine feet deep, lined with hand-hewn stone blocks of the Christian era of 1900 years ago. Known as the 'Chalice Well', it is recorded that Christian baptisms first took place there within four decades after the Ascension of Christ. Its name is derived from the famous legend of St. Joseph of Arimathea, who is said to have gone to live at Glastonbury after the Crucifixion, taking with him the Holy Grail or Cup of the Last Supper. He, traditionally, is said to have buried it in 'Chalice Hill', although other traditions say differently.

A fund of \$14,000 is sought for the intended 'Trust' that will preserve the site, in perpetuity. The property has already been bought by the 'Trust'. The nearby ruined Abbey of Glastonbury is owned by the Church of England. Originally, the Order of St. Benedict (Roman Catholic) bought the Well, seeking to also obtain the ruined Abbey, that thereby a great Catholic 'missionary center' might be established. Failing in this endeavor, they sold the Well to private parties. Later, in turn, sold it to Mr. Pole, for the 'Trust'.

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**WOMAN INJECTS NEW PETITION IN CATHOLIC LITANY.** Worshippers at a Mass in the Roman Catholic church at Lannion in Brittany (France) were horrified when a woman's voice was heard, in a tremulous, semi-Gregorian style, chanting: 'O, my Sunday Minister'. Coming, as it did, in the midst of the petitions, the choir did an extra 'Kyrie', before realizing that the soprano was not a falsetto.

As the worshippers craned their necks, the woman rushed from the church to her home. When it was discovered, that she had entered the church for worship, only to find that her purse did not contain her prayerbook, but, instead, a paper-wrapped piece of beef. Realizing that in her haste to get to church, she had popped her prayer book in the stew and put the stew in her purse, she had involuntarily raised her voice aloud amidst the solemnities of the ritual. On arriving at home, she found the prayer book, plus assorted holy pictures, floating among the vegetables in the pot, which bubbled merrily on the stove.

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**JACOBITES REUNITE AFTER 50-YEAR SPLIT.** More than 1,000,000 Indian Jacobites who had been split into two groups for nearly half a century, have been brought into one body; the union was brought about by a decree issued by Mar Ephraim, Syrian Jacobite archbishop of Antioch in Homs, Syria.

The disputing factions, known as the Malankara Jacobite Syrian Church, had fidelity to the patriarch. The other group, known as the Orthodox Syrian Church of Malabar, favored complete autonomy and had their own Catholicos, Moran Mar Baselios; his Seat at Kottayam.

The patriarch arbitrated the problem and a compromise was accepted. In substance, the Catholicos and his body accepted the jurisdiction of the Patriarch; in return, the Patriarchal body in Malankara agreed to accept the Catholicos. In this fashion, the two bodies were brought together without the Patriarch or Catholicos losing prestige or face. Both gained jurisdictional freedom and unity eased stresses among the people.

*pattern that could easily be followed by many other factional and quarreling bodies.*-ED.

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**CORNERSTONE LAID FOR NEW GREEK EVANGELICAL CHURCH.** The Rev. Stelios Karakostas, moderator of the Greek Evangelical Church, laid the cornerstone for a new Evangelical sanctuary in the 50,000 - population port city of Volos, Greece. The city of Volos is situated in southern Thessaly.

The new building will replace a 90-year old structure destroyed by earthquake four years ago. A part of the construction cost was contributed by the Bible Lands Mission Aid Society of London, England.

The Evangelical congregation was the second of that denomination organized in Greece. The first was founded 100 years ago in Athens.

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**BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT DECORATES ORTHODOX PATRIARCH.** Patriarch Cyril of the Orthodox Church of Bulgaria has been decorated by the Communist government in recognition of his 'work for peace'. He was invested with the Order of Cyril and Methodius, 1st

Class. The Order of Cyril and Methodius was established by the government 13 years ago to honor persons who have distinguished themselves in the field of culture. Cyril and Methodius were 9th century brothers who came to Bulgaria as missionaries from the Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople and established the first Bulgarian alphabet, which is the basis of the Cyrillic writing (Cyrillic alphabet).

Cyril and Methodius were called 'Apostles of the Slavs', the two are revered as Saints. Their first evangelization was in Moravia in 863.

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**INDIA NOW AFFLICTED WITH TWO CALENDAR SYSTEMS.** Births, marriages and deaths must now be registered in Indian Christian Churches according to two calendars. This is the result of a new government order.

The traditional Gregorian date now has to be accompanied by a corresponding date from the Indian 'Saka' era, which had its calendar start in 78 A.D. The Saka Calendar was introduced by the Indian emperor to mark the date of his accession; however, it was never used officially until last year.

The Indian Ministry of Home Affairs calls it the 'national calendar'. He has directed that all government departments responsible for recording vital statistics to note the Saka date in all their records.

**MARYKNOLLER REPORTS SUPERSTITION HIGH AMONG FORMOSAN WOMEN.** Superstition, especially among women, is still one of the biggest obstacles to Roman Catholic conversions in Formosa, according to Father John Sullivan, pastor of Wu Feng parish in the Maryknoll-staffed Apostolic Prefecture of Taichung.

He cited an example of what happened when he went with his catechist to the home of one of his parishioners: 'I went to the home to change the picture of the pagan Goddess Kuan Yin to that of the Virgin. Even as we endeavored to do this, the women of the family were burning joss sticks and engaging in other superstitious practices before ancestral tablets. When we restrained, they said their ancestors know nothing of Catholic practices and would be confused by any change'. The priest stated that he refrained from further effort, hoping that time would soften their attitude and bring understanding.

The priest evidently is unaware that a great portion of Catholic practice is not only taken from so-called pagan sources, but some is even derived from the very people he is endeavoring to convert. Quoting from an article by David White ('Cuba: Beautiful and Violent' that appeared in a January issue of Christian Century: 'In Cuba, Roman Catholic Christianity never accomplished more than applying the thinnest veneer of saint worship over an unchanged animism.....animal and plant sacrifice are still offered and the names of the old African deities are still in common use'. Another traveler has told of a statue of an old pagan God still standing in a Roman Church in Cuba and is an object of fertility phallic worship there today. - ED.

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**PUSH MOVEMENTS TO PERMIT FOURTH MARRIAGES IN GREECE.** A bill which would remove obstacles to a fourth marriage, now forbidden by law in Greece, is expected to be submitted in Parliament early this year.

More than 100 of the 300 Parliamentary Deputies have already signed the draft bill, but before it is submitted, a total of 200 signatures is being sought out by a sponsoring group known as the Society for the Protection of the Fourth Marriage.

The Society believes that such a backing would convince the Orthodox Church to withdraw its objection to a fourth marriage. The recent Triennial Assembly of the Greek Orthodox Holy Synod unanimously rejected authorization of such a marriage.

As a concession, the Society would favor permitting a fourth marriage only when one of the previous marriages had been dissolved by death of one party, and if the surviving member was not the guilty party in any divorce.

Pointing out that 75,000 people in Greece await passage of the bill to legalize their relationships, the Society states that thousands of children have been born out of wedlock to persons who seek a fourth marriage.

A Moslem, visiting the U.S. recently, said, when asked if it were true that they might have four wives, - 'Yes. We are much like you here, except that we have them all at one time and you have them one at a time.'

Cause for divorce and re-marriage in the Orthodox Church has a number of avenues through which petition may be made; varying from open adultery, to insanity, to criminality; etc. - ED.

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**SPECIAL GYNAECOLOGICAL CLINIC OPENED IN YUGOSLAVIA.** A new gynaecological polyclinic was opened in Ljubljana, capital of Slovenia, recently. Almost all the gynaecologists of the capital city, more than 30, are now working in the new center. In addition to the general gynaecological consulting rooms, there are special sections devoted to study the



problems of: contraception, endocrinology, child gynaecology, etc.

patient may choose the doctor she wishes. Managed by public officials, most patients little fees, if any, to pay. Social insurance takes care of all workers. Others pay a clinic fee, much smaller than what they would pay a private practitioner.

Access to religious bodies, any woman, who feels she may lawfully end a pregnancy, has the right to consult any of the doctors at the clinic regarding the matter. They, in turn, are obliged to fulfill the law, complete the examination, issue warnings of the consequences, and, in consultation with welfare officers, provide her with proper hospital care. Every doctor is obliged to furnish advice and anti-contraception means to all who ask.

*After the recent New York Hospital fracas between Catholics and Protestant-Jewish doctors over providing of anti-contraception advice and means to individuals desiring the same, it would not be hard to imagine the struggle that would take place if such a clinic were introduced in the U.S.A. - ED.*

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**HONG KONG RUSSIAN REFUGEES ARRIVE AT WALDENSIAN HOME.** A first group of Russian refugees from Hong Kong arrived at Villa Olanda, Torre Pellice, Italy. Villa Olanda is a rest home for aged refugees that was established by the Italian Waldensian Church.

The United Nations plane brought them from Hong Kong to Brindisi, where they boarded a train for the Waldensian valley in Piedmont.

The refugees are very old, some are over 80. The majority of them belong to the former ruling class of Czarist Russia and had to flee their country during the 1917 Bolshevik revolution. From Russia they went to China, where they became workers, artisans and clerks. With the change in government, they were given the choice of total assimilation into the Communist system or emigration.

For U.N. protection, the Russian refugees, in large numbers, were moved to Hong Kong; the World Council of Churches' Service to Refugees offered to find new homes for them in various parts of the world. The 19, who are being helped by the Waldensians, are only a small number of those already helped by others, or yet to be helped. Although these refugees are White Russians of Eastern Orthodox Faith, it is an astonishing fact that the great bulk of them are aided by Protestants, rather than by Orthodox Church bodies. It reveals an obvious lack of interest on the part of the Russian Orthodox Church in the West.

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**100 CLAIM RELIGIOUS AFFILIATION IN SOUTH KOREA.** More than 6,554,000 people in South Korea, out of a population of some 25 million, belong to some religion or sect, according to 1958 figures revealed by the Ministry of Education.

Buddhism is dominant with 3,856,000 followers. Presbyterians have 730,000; Methodists with 200,000; Holiness (Oriental Missionary Society) list 108,000; Roman Catholics number 242,000. The remaining number are divided among 11 other Christian groups and 24 Oriental sects.

Seoul, which in 1959, marks its 75th anniversary in Korea. Its principal gains have been in the large cities. The smaller sects control the outlying rural areas.

Survey statistics show that some 20 million South Koreans have no formal ties with any of the religious organizations above the shamanistic level still common in rural areas.

Shamanism is the primitive religion of the Ural-Altaic peoples of northern Asia and of Europe. In it, the world is conceived as having an unseen counterpart filled with various spirits, demons and ancestral spirits, which are responsive solely to shamans. A shaman is, of course, the proverbial medicine man. The American Indian had a similar type of religious culture. It was from these primitive sources that much of Christianity derived its material and ritual. - ED.

**HUTTERITE EXPANSION TO BE CURTAILED IN CANADA.** A Provincial Government Committee of Alberta, Canada, is studying a series of briefs presented to them by complaining parties against the Hutterite Communities in that Province. In essence, the briefs feel the Hutterite farm colonies are 'detrimental to other communities'.

Numbering more than 6,000 in Alberta, members of the sect follow a Christian communal life in 40 agricultural colonies totaling 200,000 acres. Each colony is restricted to 6,400 acres under a 1948 provincial law.

The complainants (Canadian Legion and Chamber of Commerce) argued that most Hutterites only finish the seventh or eighth grades and then revert to farming; that they refuse to vote, will not perform military service; and will not accept any financial benefits from the Federal Government's Family Allowance Act. They also complained that the Hutterites 'do not mix with their neighbors and pay only minimum taxes'.

It appears, from the face of it, that the issue taken by the complainants is nothing but an economic issue. Whenever any group 'lives apart' and prospers, history shows, jealousy causes the society around them to endeavor to either destroy them or amalgamate them by force or laws. In comparison, it is interesting to note that the Canadian Indians, who 'live apart' and do not prosper, arouse little, if any, similar antagonism. If, however, they accumulated excessive 'prosperity' they would undoubtedly become the object of similar complaints.

Founded in Moravia over 400 years ago, the Hutterites derive their name from Jacob Hutter, a Reformation leader who died in 1536. Members of the sect roamed across Europe before establishing their first colony in North America in 1875. - ED.

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**LIST OF EAST GERMAN JEHOVAH'S WITNESSES STOLEN.** Burglars believed to be operating in the service of the Soviet Zone State security police broke into the Jehovah's Witnesses headquarters in West Berlin and stole a card index containing 1,200 names of East German members of the sect.

No valuables were touched. Possession by East German Police of the names, it was feared, may mean reprisals against Witnesses in East Germany. The sect is banned in all areas behind the Iron Curtain.

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**ANGLICANS SHORT OF CLERGY; ASK LAW TO PERMIT SALE OF CHURCHES.** A serious clergy shortage in both the Canterbury and York Provinces was revealed through the release of official statistics of Church of England (Anglican).

Statistics indicated the Church is faced with serious problems because of population growth.

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.....THAT POLITICIANS ALWAYS LEAD THE WAY



.....IN TIME OF PEACE



energy have dwindled and a higher proportion of older men among the clergy has come in the past 50 years. Nearly 20% of all clergy are now over 65.

laymen in the Church of England are quietly spearheading a drive for a new law, which would permit the sale of empty or unwanted Anglican churches to other denominations, including Roman Catholic. Under present law, this is forbidden, altho the Church may not sell empty or unwanted facilities.

Apparently, either an ineffective Ministry or an ineffective Message of the Church during the past half century has led to the present unfortunate circumstance.- ED.

\* \* \* \* \*

**NEW ZEALAND ANGLICANS MOVE TOWARD CHURCH UNION.** After three years of negotiation, the Anglican Church of New Zealand has decided to take its first definite step toward union with other Churches.

The biennial General Synod voted here to enter into 'exploratory conversations' with the joint negotiating committee on union of the Methodist, Presbyterian, Congregational and Associated Churches of Christ. At the same time, the Synod voted to establish limited inter-communion with the Church of South India. Formed in 1947, this Church was the first anywhere to result from the union of episcopal and non-episcopal bodies.

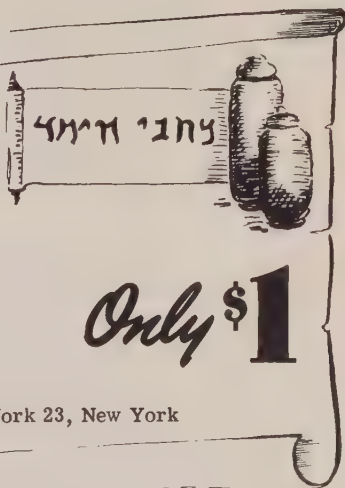
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.....IN TIME OF WAR

JANUARY 1959



## IN THE COURTS



**'OKAY' GIVEN TO INSTITUTING OF SLANDER SUIT AGAINST BISHOP KOKKINAKIS**  
The Massachusetts Supreme Court ruled early this month that Professor John P. Cavarinos of Belmont, Mass. might enter suit for slander against Bishop Athenagoras Kokkinakis of the Greek Orthodox Church of North and South America.

The ruling of the full bench overthrew a previous decision in the Norfolk Superior Court, in which the Judge (Charles Fairhurst), in effect, ruled no cause for legal action was stated.

Professor Cavarinos, a former teacher at Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Theological School in Brookline, Mass., had named Bishop Kokkinakis as a defendant in an alleged slander made against him, whilst employed at Holy Cross School. Bishop Kokkinakis was the dean of the School during the period, in which the act was charged as being committed.

The Holy Cross Greek Orthodox Theological School was founded in 1937, and up to 1954 remained unrecognized by the State educational authorities. However, in 1954, Professors John and Constantine Cavarinos, who were up till then teaching at the University of Washington and University of North Carolina, respectively, were invited by the then Dean, Rev. Dr. Nicodemus Patrino, to go and help the School. Through mutual effort on the part of these individuals and others, the School did receive from the Massachusetts Department of Education the right to grant Bachelor of Arts in Theology degrees. This was in November of 1954. Soon after this Dean Patrino was succeeded by a series of three other Deans - all within the period of one year: the Reverends James Coucouzes and Gerasimos Papadopoulos, and, lastly, Bishop Athenagoras Kokkinakis.

It is reported by an independent Investigating Committee that since Bishop Kokkinakis was appointed Faculty Supervisor in Feb. 1955 and Dean in June 1955, that there have been constant faculty resignations. During the same period, some 14 teachers have left the School, and had an enrollment of about 100 students.

On March 26, 1957 a hearing was held before the Board of Collegiate Authority, Dept. of Education of Massachusetts, for the purpose of deciding on a petition of the School to award honorary degrees. At this meeting, Prof. John Cavarinos was present, as were Bishop Kokkinakis and Antonios Anastassi (trustee of the School and attorney of the Greek Consulate of Boston). The suit of Prof. Cavarinos charges that at this hearing he was 'falsely and maliciously spoken of by the defendant.

Also, according to the suit, the alleged statement of the bishop accused Cavarinos of attempting 'to introduce into the School Communistic literature and for that reason he was about to be dismissed'. The suit further argues that the bishop described him as being unfit and unsuitable to engage in his profession as an instructor. (Named in a companion suit, as a defendant, was lawyer Antonios Anastassi).

Chief Justice Raymond S. Wilkins of the Supreme Court stated in the decision: 'We have no doubt that the words alleged to have been adopted by the other could reasonably be found to be defamatory of the plaintiff and to be prejudicial to the plaintiff in his profession as a teacher. To charge a teacher with an attempt to introduce Communistic literature, as a result of which he was about to be dismissed from his position, could reasonably be found to mean that the plaintiff's efforts were detrimental to the school'.



**DEFRAUDER' OF CHURCHES CONVICTED.** A man, accused of defrauding both religious and educational organizations in 28 different States, was convicted by a Kansas City, Federal Court, the U.S. Post Office Dept. announced.

Northcraft, 41, was found guilty on 14 counts of using the mails to defraud religious schools and civic clubs. The P.O. Dept. said he had collected some \$240,000 as advance on a scheme to publish Year Books and Church Cookbooks, which he never published.

His trial was deferred temporarily, pending the outcome of an appeal for a new trial.

\* \* \* \* \*

**FOUR PAINTINGS OPEN JAIL DOORS.** The doors of Moyamensing Prison (Phila.) were opened for a 28-year old West Philadelphia man, who persuaded a Municipal Court judge that he 'had seen the light'. The 'light' was that he had executed four religious paintings whilst on a 9 to 23 month term for assault and battery. The prisoner had served only about six months (he had been sentenced last July).

In Washington, a tile-setter by trade, told Judge E.A. Kallick that he felt he had a serious case for painting and requested another chance to prove it. Impressed by the four paintings (of the Virgin Mary, the Virgin Mary, the Virgin Mary, the Virgin Mary) the Judge sent him home a free man.

\* \* \* \* \*

**N.Y. BINGO LICENSE RECEIVES FIRST SUSPENSION.** The very first license issued in New York City - to a Bronx church - also has the distinction of having the first suspension on record. The license, issued immediately after the legal opening day (January 2), was suspended within 48 hours. The suspension was invoked after complaint charges had been filed with the License Commissioner that irregularities existed in payment of \$1000 to one or more women players, who allege they won same at a previously held 'illegal game' last summer.

On his first game January 7th, the Very Reverend Father Walter M. Propheta of the Holy Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 675 E. 183rd Street, Bronx, N.Y. was accosted by an inspector of the Dept. of Licenses, who endeavored to serve him with an order of suspension.

Seeing the outstretched hand of the inspector, the priest stated he would continue 'bingoing' to the final end of the scheduled game. A reported 300, plus, enthusiastic women players surrounded him lustily whilst the 'words flew in all directions'.

Frustrated in his attempts at serving the paper, the inspector tried to mount the platform, but was repelled by Father George Owen, pastor of Holy Resurrection. Seeking the best way out, the inspector reached a long arm up and laid the service on the knee of the seated Father Propheta, who, meanwhile, was busily chanting out the numbers of the bingo game. Balanced precariously, the paper stuck for a moment and then fluttered helplessly down to the floor - the women shouting: 'Leave us alone' and 'Get out of here'. Like a henpecked husband, the inspector then retreated from the hall, forlornly stating that 'Service has been made'.

Reported extensively in the New York papers, last August an 'illegal' game of bingo (bingo was legalized in last November's Statewide elections for local option) was played under the auspices of the Church. During the game, three women won \$1000. As they were never paid, the operator of the game having disappeared (reportedly a milkman); two of the women took the money, in due season, to the Bronx D.A.'s office. The third woman accepted a settlement of \$50 from the Church. The D.A.'s office later notified the new Bingo License Bureau that it was initiating a complaint. This caused Commissioner O'Connell to issue a restraining suspension until a full hearing could be held - (scheduled for January 22nd in the Bronx Magistrates Court, with an additional hearing regarding a violation of operating a bingo game without a license).

The church in question is under the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of Archbishop Bohdan, who, in turn, is under the Greek Archdiocese of North and South America, 10 E. 79th St. N.Y.C.

**ARTUKOVICH WINS FIGHT AGAINST EXTRADITION.** The Croatian Ustashi leader entered the U.S.A. under an Irish entry permit, has been under extradition action since 1945. The Yugoslav government was seeking his extradition that he might be tried in connection with the war crime atrocities that were carried out by the Ustashi - NAZI Militia in 1941 and 1942. During this period, hundreds of thousands of Jews, Serbian Orthodox and Protestant people were slain by the Roman Catholic militia order of Ustashi, with the active support of Hitler.

Theodore Hocke, U.S. Commissioner, after hearing the case in a two week session that started last June 16th, ruled that insufficient grounds had been presented by the present Government of Yugoslavia for the extradition of Andrija Artukovich as a war criminal.

M. Artukovich, 57, entered the U.S. under an assumed name and has been working in California for a brother, who is a contractor.

*One who reads and sees, pictorially, the facts of the murders and slaughters of the Jews by the Ustashi, cannot help but wonder at civilian justice in the case of such people as Artukovich, ones who were responsible. The violence current in Cuba is as nothing compared with that of Serbia. - ED.*

\* \* \* \* \*

**ANGLICAN PRIEST SUED FOR ILLEGAL BAPTISMS.** Court hearings opened in France, against one Rev. Henry Brandreth of St. Georges Church, located in the western part of Paris, by Madame Georgette Glodek, a Jewish lady.

The plaintiff is seeking nominal damages only of one (1) franc. Her complaint is that the Anglican priest did illegally baptize her children without her consent or request. She states that she was divorced in 1951 and four years later discovered that her husband had taken their children to St. Georges church, where they were baptized by Mr. Brandreth.

\* \* \* \* \*

**KOREA'S TOP FAITH-HEALER JAILED.** The Seoul, Korea, Prosecutor's office has formally detained Park Tae-sun, Korea's top faith-healer, on charges of 'fraud and intimidation'.

Park has been under intense investigation by the civil authorities for three months on account of fatalities allegedly connected with his nationally-known 'praying message'. He is now being held incommunicado at Seoul's main prison, 'West Gate', following a face-to-face interrogation with Kim Sung-kon, his chief accuser.

Kim has charged that Park swindled him out of 1,450,000 hwan (\$2,900) in a real-estate deal. He also alleged that Park caused the death of seven members of Kim's family last year by administering a 'praying message', coupled with admonition against medical treatment.

Park, who is estimated to have some 100,000 followers in 900 churches, regularly commutes the length of the Korean peninsula by air each Sunday to preach in mammoth halls specifically erected for him in Inchon, Seoul and Pusan.

Calling himself the 'Olive Tree', he dispenses 'Holy Water', in which he has washed his hands, claiming that any sick persons who drink it will recover. Informed sources say that the estate fraud charges have stemmed from Park's activities in connection with his 'Millennium Castle', a modern housing development outside Seoul with 600 residences, a church and small factories for producing daily needs. 'Olive Tree' followers are assured that anyone living in the 'Castle' development is certain to witness the Second Coming.

Prosecutor Lee Yong-hoon, who started an investigation in August, when a deranged youth died in Seoul during a 'praying message' administered by an Olive Tree deacon, has given orders that no one is to see Park while he is under detention. Meanwhile, some 2,000 Olive Tree adherents in the 'Castle' have joined with 3,000 women followers at Park's Seoul Temple to pray for the 'Tree', as Park styles himself.



**RULES AGAINST BIRTH CONTROL LAW CHALLENGES.** New Haven County Court Judge F.T. Healey upheld demurrers entered by the State Attorney's office in apt by the State of Connecticut to halt five test cases challenging the State's birth control law. The Judge said that Connecticut's highest court - the Supreme Court of Errors - had already decided 'the basic issue'.

The suits seek to invalidate the 79-year old law which forbids the use of contraceptive devices, or advising their use. The suits were instituted last summer by Dr.C.Lee, chairman of the obstetrics department of Yale University Medical School, three marriages and a housewife.

The Connecticut Supreme Court, when it reviewed the law previously, held that it is within the powers of the state legislature and that it does not violate rights under either the Federal Constitutions.

*Active resistance is often spoken of as centering in the South, against integration. Apparently, some of the North is adopting similar legislative techniques to throttle the rights of individual citizens in deciding circumstances in their own personal lives. - ED°*

\* \* \* \* \*

**SCOTISH LAW DOES NOT RECOGNIZE VATICAN DECREES.** A decree of the Sacred Roman Rota, Vatican tribunal, nullifying a marriage of a Roman Catholic couple in Scotland, can not be recognized under Scottish law, the Court of Sessions ruled in Edinburgh.

Maria di Rollo, a native of Scotland, had sought to have the Edinburgh court recognize the decree. She was married in 1949 to Bruno di Rollo, an Italian, in an Edinburgh Catholic Church. The couple had no children.

Mrs. di Rollo tried to have her marriage annulled by the Edinburgh diocesan tribunal on the grounds that she had never given her free consent to the wedding. She was denied. Her appeal to Rome brought about a reversal.

The Court of Sessions, ruled that 'There are not in Scotland two judicial systems administering different laws of marriage'.

It is ruled by Vatican decrees in such matters, Mr. di Rollo found himself a free man, and so he married again - this time in Italy. As this left him with two wives by law, his wife was granted a civil divorce in Scotland on the grounds of adultery.

Lawyers in Scotland said this was a deliberate attempt by Rome to try and enforce her decrees on civil jurisdictions outside Rome and, hoping thereby, to achieve extra-territorial validity over all persons married in Catholic Churches anywhere in the world.

The Rota is primarily a court of appeals from diocesan tribunals in matrimonial cases. It also serves as a court of appeals from the civil and criminal tribunals of Vatican City.

\* \* \* \* \*

**HEAVY PENALTIES UPHELD AGAINST OFFENDERS OF CATHOLIC CHURCH.** The Italian Constitutional Court, highest in the land, upheld the validity of Article 724 of the Italian Code, which provides heavier penalties for offenses against the Roman Catholic Church than against non-Catholic cults.

Article in question states that 'whoever curses or pronounces outrageous words against the divinity or the symbols and persons venerated by the religion of the State' is subject to a fine the amount depending on whether the offense is committed against Catholicism, or some other religion.

The case came before the superior tribunal in an appeal by a lower court in Martina Franca,

which argued the article should be considered obsolete since 'the Italian constitution esteems the equality of all cults without stating the existence of a State religion'.

The Constitutional Court ruled that the term 'religion of the State' does not have the juridical meaning implied by the *Martina Franca* court. He said the fact that Article 724 provides for a heavier punishment if the offenses in question are committed against Catholicism 'merely acknowledges the fact that Catholicism is the religion of the overwhelming majority of Italians and is therefore entitled to stronger penal protection.'

Leaders of Italian religious minorities were quoted as expressing amazement at the prejudice evidenced in the court's decision.

\* \* \* \* \*

**COURT SUSTAINS MOTHER WHO REJECTED CATHOLIC PAROCHIAL SCHOOL.** The Ohio Supreme Court refused to review the case of a woman who sent her child to a parochial school altho her divorce agreement called for sending the girl to a Roman Catholic parochial school.

No debatable constitutional question was involved in the case, the Court ruled, and on this ground turned down a request by the father for a ruling on an Eighth District Court of Appeals judgement, which had also upheld the mother's action.

John W. Hackett, Jr., an attorney, had initiated the original suit against his divorced wife. The Domestic Relations Court in Toledo, Ohio. He had asked that court to hold his wife in contempt for failing to live up to their divorce agreement.

Judge P.W. Alexander, at that time, had rejected the request of the Roman Catholic Mr. Hackett on the grounds that such an agreement was unenforceable and violated constitutional guarantees of freedom of religion. He pointed out that if he held her in contempt he would actually be forcing her to send her child to a particular religious school and thereby forcing her to support a particular religion against her will. This he refused to do.

After the Court of Appeals upheld Judge Alexander, Mr. Hackett appealed to the State Supreme Court.

\* \* \* \* \*

**CHURCHES MAY BE BARRED FROM RESIDENTIAL AREAS.** The Supreme Court of the State of Wisconsin ruled that a decision by Circuit Judge A.W. Parnell of Appleton, Wis. was correct. Judge Parnell's decision had banned the construction of a \$40,000 Church of the Open Bible in that city, on the basis that the proposed church violated original plot covenants in the area.

Attorneys for the church had argued that the covenant was not enforceable because it was vague, ambiguous and contrary to the provisions of the State Constitution.

The Supreme Court declared that 'the majority of courts on constitutional grounds refuse to uphold the exclusion of churches by zoning ordinances. But restrictive covenants (in deed) excluding churches have been universally enforced.' An ordinance would be invalid because it is an action of the government, the court said, but a covenant is an agreement between individuals and has been enforced by courts in this country in many cases and 'will continue to be enforced by courts in Wisconsin'. The court concluded that the covenant restrictions were established before the church building was begun and were on file with the Outagamie County register of deeds.



**ERUCTION OF 90-FOOT STEEPLE FOR ARMENIAN CHURCH OKAYED.** The  
tion of the 90-foot spire for the Armenian Holy Trinity Church in Cambridge, Mass.,  
oved by Judge C.A. Rome in Middlesex County Superior Court.

that the Cambridge Board of Appeals was within its authority in granting a special  
the church, despite a 35-foot building limit on the street where the structure will  
d. The \$600,000 church also will have a 57-foot ridge pole.

for the 12 families in the neighborhood opposing the church's erection said he would  
e judge's decision. Meanwhile, Sarkis Zartarian, church lawyer and chairman of the  
the trustees of the church, said the Armenian congregation would await the 21-day  
period before proceeding with actual construction.

\* \* \* \* \*

**WINS CASE AGAINST LEXINGTON HISTORIC COMMISSION.** The Hancock  
ational church in Lexington, Mass., won a favorable decision in its court appeal  
the Lexington Historic Commission's rejection of building plans.

W. Wisnioski of Middlesex Superior Court ruled the commission's action as 'arbitrary,  
us and unreasonable'.

mission had rejected blueprints for the addition of a Sunday School and the redesign of  
ch, which is located on Massachusetts Avenue facing the Lexington Battle Green. It  
s action on the grounds that the structure 'would tend to dominate the Battle Green  
architectural style that would create an inappropriate setting for this area'.

ifices near the Green are of Colonial design. The Congregational church, erected in  
described as a Romanesque-type structure. It has a fieldstone facing, a tower and four

h-building committee made several revisions of blueprints in an effort to satisfy the  
sion, but all to no avail. The suit followed thereafter.

ington Commission is one of three, established by the State legislature, to preserve  
racter of historic sites. Other commissions exist for Nantucket Island and Boston's  
Hill. The Lexington commission has a five member board; all rulings on the church  
ion were unanimous.

isnioski's ruling stressed that the commission's action 'amounted to a virtual condem-  
of the applicant's property, based upon ultra-aesthetic standards' not intended by the  
statute. He noted also that 'a lack of a new addition would constitute a hardship to the  
nt'.

as the first court ruling on a historic commission's authority to ban construction, which  
ese met all building code requirements.

\* \* \* \* \*

**GROUP CHALLENGES SCHOOL BIBLE-RULING LAW.** Pennsylvania's school  
reading law was challenged by the American Jewish Congress as 'religious oppression',  
under the U.S. Constitution.

riend of the court' brief filed in the U.S. District Court in Philadelphia, the AJC supported  
ontgomery County parents who seek to upset the State law; the law calls for the reading  
east ten verses from the Holy Bible...at the opening of each public school on each school  
the teacher in charge'.

quiring school children to commit a devotional act, the statute violates freedom of religion  
eparation of Church and State, the brief claimed. It also stated that by introducing sect-  
ism into the public school, the statute causes divisiveness, animosity and jealousy; and

that the law was designed to 'shift responsibility for religious education from the home it belongs - to the school, where it does not.'

Defendants in the suit are the School District of Abington Township and its four member

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**TAX EXEMPTION CASE LOST BY 'PURITAN CHURCH'.** The U.S. Supreme Court upheld a decision of the federal Tax Court denying tax exemption to the 'Puritan Church - Church of Christ' of Peoria, Ill., because the organization known as the 'Puritan Church - Church of Christ America' conducted activities other than religious worship and instruction.

Earlier, the decision had been affirmed by the U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in Washington. Now, the Supreme Court has refused to grant a review, thus ending the long litigation over a \$326,000 tax bill, which the Internal Revenue Service has been trying to collect since 1947.

The 'Puritan Church' organization had an income of \$201,000 in 1947 and \$359,000 in 1948, according to evidence shown.

Its tax-exempt status was challenged by the Internal Revenue Service on the grounds that it was principally engaged in disseminating political pamphlets thru the mails.

The Tax Court highlighted the group's corporate charter from the State of Illinois. It described the organization as being founded for the purpose of 'distributing thru the U.S. Mails and otherwise the revelations of God vouchsafed to its members on religious, educational, political, fraternal, charitable and reformatory subjects, the study of which will cause the members to practice them a mental development along scientific lines.....In addition, the purposes of this society are to promote unqualified allegiance to the general government, protect the rights and liberties of American citizens, and maintain national honor, union and independence.'

The Tax Court said that such purposes did not qualify the society for recognition as a 'church' or as a charitable organization within the meaning of the U.S. tax laws and that its income would have to pay income tax on all contributions received.

*All of which goes to prove that any Body seeking proper incorporation, within the meaning of the tax laws for religious bodies, must obtain competent legal advice before writing meaningless slogans. - ED.*

\* \* \* \* \*

**SUPREME COURT REJECTS 'C.O.'s' APPEAL.** A constitutional appeal from a conscientious objector, who was sentenced to prison for a second time for refusing a draft board's order, was rejected by the U.S. Supreme Court.

Robert Lee Korte of San Francisco, California, a member of the Jehovah's Witnesses, held that he should have been classified 4-F by his draft board because he had previously been convicted of a felony - namely - refusing to report for induction in the army.

Mr. Korte was a student at the Univ. of California, Berkeley, at the time he was first called for induction in 1953. He appealed for classification as a 'C.O.'; was denied; arrested, convicted and sentenced to 18 months in prison when he failed to report for induction.

Paroled, he was again classified 1-A on Feb. 2nd, 1955; his petition as a 'C.O.' was again denied. He appealed to Selective Service and received classification as a 'C.O.' and ordered to take a civilian work assignment with the Los Angeles Board of Charities. He refused, claiming that, as a 'convicted felon', he was 'morally unfit' for service, pointing out that all men convicted of felonies are thus rejected.

The U.S. District Court studied his appeal and ruled that any draft board has a right to judge as to the moral character of any draftee, regardless of whether a prison record is involved. The court also ruled that each failure to report for induction or a civilian work assignment was a crime. **AMERICAN REVIEW OF EASTERN ORTHODOXY**



state offense against the law. This ruling was upheld by the Circuit Court of Appeals. Second convictions for religious objectors, who have already served one prison sentence forth an established fact in law.

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**RESTRICTS PASTOR'S ACTIVITIES TO SPIRITUAL MATTERS.** Four deacons of New Hope Baptist Church, Pasco, Washington, have secured a court order requiring pastor to restrict his activities to spiritual matters and leave their church business alone.

Deacons claimed that the Rev. L.G. Burkett, their pastor for seven months, took over the running of the church board at a December 27th meeting and silenced members of the congregation who opposed his plans.

Judge J. Lawless issued a temporary restraining order against Mr. Burkett barring him from taking part in church business affairs. The order also restrains the four complainants from disposing of the church building and land, valued at \$6,000, until the controversy is settled. The church was built with voluntary labor and donations in East Pasco.

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**MAY SERVE ON JURIES, COURT RULES.** Superior Court Judge Eugene L. Brown, Providence, R.I., denied a motion for a new trial in a drunken driving case involving a question of whether one of the jurors, a Baptist minister, should have been permitted to

testify. A. Manzi, attorney for the defendant, said the Rev. Newell J. Smith, pastor of Woodville Baptist Church at Pawtucket, R.I., had no right to serve on the jury because of a State law which says clergymen 'shall be exempted'.

The court stressed that nowhere in the statutes does it state that a person, who is exempted, is qualified from so serving. 'Exemption', he said, 'is a personal privilege which can be waived or not'.

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**MINISTER DRAWS SIX-MONTH SENTENCE.** Rev. Maurice F. McCrackin of Cincinnati's St. Barnabas church, a mission congregation jointly supported by the Episcopal Diocese and the Cincinnati Presbytery, was sentenced to serve six months for ignoring a subpoena from the Internal Revenue Service.

McCrackin, 52, has refused to pay income taxes for the last 10 years because some of the money goes for military purposes. He was taken to the Federal Prison camp at Allenburg,

after the minister's conviction, 13 clergymen (12 Protestant and 1 rabbi) appealed to the Supreme Court to intervene. They asked Mr. Eisenhower to request the Justice Dept. to see that McCrackin might be freed of the contempt charge so that the trial might be allowed to

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**PROTESTANT ACQUITTED OF CHURCH 'OFFENSES'.** A Rome court acquitted an Italian Protestant farmer, Domencio Mercadante, and his whole family of charges of religious offenses against Roman Catholicism, the 'religion of the state'.

The charge grew out of an incident during the traditional Easter blessing of homes in 1957. At the time, the local parish priest tried to enter the Mercadante home to bless it and was barred from doing so. He entered suit under Article 724 of the Italian Penal Code.

The court threw out the charges, saying the defendants had not 'performed any punishable act'.

# DOMESTIC



**RUSSIAN ORTHODOX CHRISTMAS CELEBRATED JANUARY 7th.** Thruout the country services were held, in the hundred or more Russian and Ukrainian Churches of the various jurisdictions, in commemoration of the old Julian Calendar Christmas, which falls annually January 7th.

St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Washington D.C., which has been holding Services at the Chapel of St. Joseph of Arimathea (Washington Episcopal Cathedral), pending erection of their own house of worship, marked Western Christmas with a 'thank you' to their general hosts by singing Ukrainian carols at evensong service, 4 P.M. Christmas Day. The service had included in it the ancient Christian tradition of the 'Kiss of Peace', long lost to Western Christianity.

In Chicago, Ill., Father Emilian Solanka celebrated Liturgy at Holy Trinity Russian Orthodox Cathedral. Father Solanka, a former FBI agent, instituted English-language Services some five years ago at the Cathedral. On Sundays, the English Service is held at 9:15 AM, with traditional Russian Liturgy at 10:30.

In Gary, Indiana, three Orthodox churches, held Services, starting Tuesday evening. Russian, Carpatho-Russian, and Serbian Orthodox are the three companion church bodies. The local Greek Church follows the Western Calendar, with Christmas Dec. 25th.

In the Roman Catholic Byzantine Church of St. Mary's Ukrainian Church of Bristol, Pennsylvania, however, all was not quite so smooth. Pickets patrolled the front of the church with placards in English and Ukrainian, reading 'All we want is fairness'..... 'Why don't the parishioners know what is going on?'..... 'We want to speak to the archbishop'. The reason? Father Tymkiw said the archbishop Bohachevsky had ordered cessation of all Old Calendar services at Christmas - that henceforth Christmas would be celebrated December 25th. As a result of the picketing, Father Tymkiw said attendance had fallen off sharply. Strike leader Michael Holowczak said the parishioners merely want traditional Ukrainian customs maintained, Christmas on its proper date in January.

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**GREEK BISHOP POLYEFTKTOS OF PITTSBURGH OFFICIATES AT EPIPHANY** Chief celebrant at the annual Epiphany (Baptism) Services at famed Tarpon Springs, Florida, was the Greek Orthodox Bishop of Pittsburgh, Rt. Rev. Polyeftktos.

Epiphany, or Theophany as it is called also, occurs January 6th, twelfth day after Christmas. Originally celebrated as Christmas Day by early Christians (up till the middle of the 4th century), the Day was known as the 'manifestation' or 'birth' of God's Spirit in Jesus of Nazareth. This happened in the River Jordan at the baptism by John. The reason? It was not when He was born, but when He was baptized that the Spirit became manifest - hence it was known as the Nativity or Christmas. Today, this idea is still commemorated in the Blessing of Waters, which is then used to sanctify individuals and homes thruout the year, for the Water of Life sanctifies all who receive of it. This is why the throwing of the Cross into the waters is a part of this custom. The plunging of the young men into the bayou, lakes and rivers to retrieve crosses, thrown there by the bishops and priests of the Orthodox church all over the world, is symbolic of the descent of the Man Jesus into the waters, from whence he was raised as 'manifest'.

This year's Service was the 56th consecutive celebration held in Tarpon Springs.



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## DO YOU KNOW?

When did the Ave Maria become a Roman Catholic prayer?

At the beginning of the 6th Century. Ave Maria, known commonly as the 'Hail Mary', the salute to the Virgin Mary used by the Archangel Gabriel (St. Luke 1:28 & 42), to which were added the petition which forms the second part of the prayer. The salutation Gabriel has always been used as a hymn in the Eastern Orthodox Church, from whence it was derived its use.

What do Protestants believe are the external means thru which God's grace reaches Man?

The Word, or contents of the Gospel, as authoritatively set forth in the Bible; and the sacraments of Baptism and the Lord's Supper. These sacraments, according to the Westminster Confession of Faith, are the only ones recognized by Protestants as having any scriptural authority.

Who was the first Christian martyr?

Stephen, Hellenist Jewish convert and one of the seventy chosen disciples of Christ, was selected by the Apostles to be one of the Seven Deacons; following this, he wrought great miracles, which aroused the Temple against him and he was thereafter stoned to death in 29 A.D.

Whence cometh the words of the blessing: 'The Lord bless thee and keep thee.....'?

From Scriptures (Numbers 6:24-26), even as do many of the Liturgical phrases.

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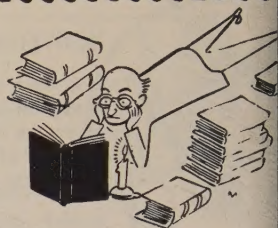
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